

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P803328/WO/1	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/DE2004/001137	International filing date (day/month/year) 03.06.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 12.06.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC		
Applicant MTU AERO ENGINES GMBH		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 1 sheets, as follows:

☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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International application No.

PCT/DE2004/001137

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
 - ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
 - ☒ the description:
 - pages 1-6 _____ as originally filed/furnished
 - pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - ☒ the claims:
 - nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
 - nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 - nos.* 1-5 _____ received by this Authority on 13.04.2005 with letter
 - nos.* _____ received by this Authority on of 07.04.2005
 - ☒ the drawings:
 - sheets 1/2-2/2 _____ as originally filed/furnished
 - sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 - ☐ the description, pages _____
 - ☐ the claims, nos. _____
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
 - ☐ the description, pages _____
 - ☐ the claims, nos. _____
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-5	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-5	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-5	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

1. Reference is made to the following document:

D1: EP 0 921 274 A (UNITED TECHNOLOGIES CORP)
9 June 1999 (1999-06-09)

2. Document D1 is considered the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1 and discloses (the references between parentheses refer to that document; see figures 3 and 4):

a rotor for a gas turbine, comprising a plurality of blades (36), which are disposed on the rotor and rotate together therewith, i.e. rotor blades, the blades (36) forming at least one blade ring, the blades (36) being disposed inside the blade ring at varying distances (D, D+, D-) from one another and therefore at different blade pitches; the distance (D, D+, D-) of the blades in the blade ring changes intermittently in the circumferential direction (see paragraph 20) and the distance of the blades in the blade ring is measured such that imbalances cancel each other out.

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

2.1 The subject matter of claim 1 thus differs from the known rotor for a gas turbine in that:

the rotor comprises a plurality of blade rings which are arranged axially one behind the other and the blades are disposed inside each blade ring at varying distances from one another.

2.2 The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

3. The present invention can thus be considered to address the problem of:

devising an arrangement which results in improved vibration mechanics for the entire rotor.

3.1 The solution to this problem as proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons:

a rotor that comprises a plurality of blade rings which are arranged axially one behind the other, the blades being disposed inside each blade ring at varying distances from one another, is optimised with regard to the vibration mechanics, resonance vibrations thereby being avoided to a greater extent.

4. Claims 2-5 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore

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	<p>likewise meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.</p> <p>5. The subject matter of the invention is industrially applicable in the field of gas turbines (PCT Article 33(4)).</p>